<u>AMENDMENT</u>

In the Claims:

Claims 1-79 (Cancelled).

- 80. (Previously added): An energy transfer dye comprising:
- a xanthene donor dye capable of absorbing light at a first wavelength and emitting excitation energy in response thereto;
- a 4,7-dichlororhodamine acceptor dye capable of absorbing the excitation energy emitted by the donor dye and fluorescing at a second wavelength in response thereto; and a non-nucleosidic linker linking the 5- or 6-ring position of the donor dye to the 5- or 6-ring position of the acceptor dye.
- 81. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 80 in which the donor dye is a fluorescein dye.
- 82. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 80 in which the linker has a backbone that is less than 9 atoms in length.
- 83. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 80 in which the linker comprises a functional group selected from an alkene, a diene, an alkyne, a five membered ring having at least one unsaturated bond, a six membered ring having at least one unsaturated bond and a fused ring structure.
- 84. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 80 which further comprises a linking group suitable for attaching the energy transfer dye to another substance.
- 85. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 84 in which the linking group is attached to the 4'-position of the 4,7-dichlororhodamine acceptor dye.
- 86. (Previously added): The energy transfer dye of Claim 80 which comprises the structure:

wherein:

R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are each, independently of one another, selected from hydrogen and alkyl, or alternatively R¹ and R⁵, R² and R⁶, R³ and R⁸ and/or R⁴ and R⁹ may be taken together with the atoms to which they are bonded to form a 5, 6 or 7-membered ring;

R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, R⁹ and R¹⁰ are each, independently of one another, selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate, sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile, alkoxy, phenyl and substituted phenyl, or alternatively, R⁶ and R⁷ and/or R⁹ and R¹⁰ may be taken together with the atoms to which they are bonded to form a benzo group;

R⁸ is selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate, sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile, alkoxy, phenyl, substituted phenyl and linking group;

X¹ and X³ are each, independently of one another, selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate, sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile and alkoxy;

L is the linker linking the donor and acceptor dyes;

R¹¹, R¹², R¹³, R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are each, independently of one another, selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate,

sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile, alkoxy, phenyl and substituted phenyl, or alternatively, R¹² and R¹³ and/or R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ may be taken together with the atoms to which they are bonded to form a benzo group;

R¹⁴ is selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate, sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile, alkoxy, phenyl, substituted phenyl and linking group; and

X¹¹, X¹², X¹³ and X¹⁵ are each, independently of one another, selected from hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, carboxyl, alkyl, alkene, alkyne, sulfonate, sulfone, amino, ammonium, amido, nitrile and alkoxy.

Claims 87-151 (Cancelled).